

**TITLE 18. ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**CHAPTER 5. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**  
**ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEWS AND CERTIFICATION**

**ARTICLE 1. CLASSIFICATION OF WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES AND CERTIFICATION OF OPERATORS**

**R18-5-101. Definitions**

The terms in this Article have the following meanings:

“Certified operator” or “operator” means an individual who holds a current certificate issued by the Department in the field of water or wastewater treatment, water distribution, or wastewater collection.

“Collection system” means a pipeline or conduit, a pumping station, a force main, or any other device or appurtenance used to collect and conduct wastewater to a central point for treatment and disposal.

“Department” means the Department of Environmental Quality or its designated representative.

“Director” means the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality or the Director’s designated representative.

“Direct responsible charge” means daytoday decision making responsibility for a facility or a major portion of a facility.

“Distribution system” means a pipeline, appurtenance, or device of a public water system that conducts water from a water source or treatment plant to consumers for domestic or potable use.

“Facility” means a water treatment plant, wastewater treatment plant, distribution system, or collection system.

“Industrial waste” means the liquid, gaseous, or solid waste produced at an industrial operation.

“Onsite operator” means an operator who visits a facility at least daily to ensure that the facility is operating properly.

“Onsite representative” means an individual located at a facility who monitors the daily operation at the facility and maintains contact with the remote operator regarding the facility.

“Operator” has the same meaning as certified operator, as defined in this Section.

“PDH” means professional development hour, as defined in this Section.

“Population equivalent” means the population that would contribute an equal amount of biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) computed on the basis of 0.17 pounds of fiveday, 20degree centigrade BOD per capita per day.

“Professional development hour” or “PDH” means one hour of participation in an organized educational activity related to engineering, biological or chemical sciences, a closely related technical or scientific discipline, or operations management.

“Public water system” has the same meaning prescribed in A.R.S. § 49-352.

“Qualifying discipline” means engineering, biology, chemistry, or a closely related technical or scientific discipline.

“Qualifying experience” means experience, skill, or knowledge obtained through employment that is applicable to the technical or operational control of all or part of a facility.

“Remote operator” means an operator who is not an onsite operator.

“Validated examination” means an examination that is approved by the Department after being reviewed to ensure that the examination is based on the class and grade of a system or facility.

“Wastewater” means sewage, industrial waste, and all other waterborne waste that may pollute any lands or waters of the state.

“Wastewater treatment plant” means a process, device, or structure used to treat or stabilize wastewater or industrial waste and dispose of the effluent.

“Water treatment plant” means a process, device, or structure used to improve the physical, chemical, or biological quality of the water in a public water system.